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United States Mint Offers Final Nickel of Westward Journey Nickel Series™ in Two-Roll Sets & Bags

January 9, 2006

WASHINGTON — The United States Mint announced today that the final 5–cent coin (nickel) of the Westward Journey Nickel Series™, featuring the new forward–looking obverse portrait of President Thomas Jefferson, entitled "Jefferson, 1800," on the obverse (heads side), and "Monticello" on the reverse (tails side), will be available in two–roll sets and bags on January 12, 2006, beginning at 12:00 noon (ET).

The new nickel is called the "Return to Monticello" nickel. Its obverse is based on a Rembrandt Peale portrait of Jefferson, painted in 1800. This coin's obverse and reverse conclude the historic Westward Journey Nickel Series that began in 2004, and are expected to grace the nickel for years to come.

The 2006 nickel obverse was designed by United States Mint Artistic Infusion Program artist Jamie Franki of Concord, North Carolina. The new nickel obverse is sculpted by United States Mint sculptor–engraver Donna Weaver. As on the 2005 nickels, the word "Liberty" in Thomas Jefferson's own handwriting will be inscribed on the obverse.

The 1938 classic rendition of President Jefferson's Virginia home at Monticello by Felix Schlag is more detailed than Americans have seen it in recent years. It has been carefully restored by United States Mint sculptor–engraver John Mercanti, using Schlag's original work. During more than 65 years of production, the United States Mint had slightly modified the reverse design for technical reasons.

Each 40–coin roll in the two–roll set is wrapped in a specially designed paper coin wrap that prominently displays "Westward Journey Nickel Series™," a "P" or "D" representing the roll's mint of origin, the year "2006," and "\$2" representing the face value of its contents. Each 500–coin bag is marked with "\$25.00," and each 1,000–coin bag is marked with "\$50.00" to indicate the face value of each bag's contents. Two–roll sets will sell for \$8.95, bags of 500 coins for \$45.95, and bags of 1,000 coins for \$79.95.

These two-roll sets and bags, featuring circulation-quality nickels and struck on our main production floors at the United States Mint at Philadelphia and Denver, will be shipped directly to customers. There is no order limit on these products. Please allow approximately two to three weeks for delivery.

Customers can purchase the nickels in two-roll sets and bags by using the United States Mint's secure website, www.usmint.gov, or by calling 1–800–USA–MINT (872–6468). Hearing– and speech–impaired customers may order by calling 1–888–321–MINT (6468). A shipping and handling fee of \$4.95 per order will be added to all domestic orders. Bags of 500 and 1,000 coins will each have an additional charge of \$7.95 per bag because of their weight and size.

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